

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 179962

LIMDIS

FOR MR. ROSENSTOCK UN INTERNATIONAL LEGAL AFFAIRS

REF: STATE 176175

FOL REPEAT OF SAN JOSE 3167 TO SECSTATE JULY 29

QTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 3167

LIMDIS

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR PGOV CS

SUBJ: AGREEMENT OF JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO HIRE COSTA RICAN LAWYER

REF: STATE 176UT

1. EMBASSY NOTES AUTHORIZATION BY JUSTICE TO HIRE
COSTA RICAN ATTORNEY TO WORK ON SOME VESCO RELATED
MATTERS, BUT WONDERS WHAT IS RESPONSE TO OUR ORIGINAL
REQUEST FOR LOCAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN ANALYZING EXISTING
EXTRADITION LAW, REVISION NOW PENDING IN ASSEMBLY, AND/OR
ANY FURTHER CHANGES WHICH PRESIDENT ODUBER MAY PROPOSE
(SAN JOSE 1945; SAN JOSE 1541; SAN JOSE 4212, NOV 4,
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1974; ANDEAN JOSE 3738, SEPT 26, 1974). WOULD

APPRECIATE ADVICE ON THIS POINT.

2. PRIOR TO RECOMMENDING ATTORNEY TO JUSTICE, EMBASSY WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE SOME FURTHER INDICATION OF THE LINE AND OBJECTIVES TO BE PURSUED IN THIS INVESTIGATION OF INTER-AMERICAN CAPITAL. IS USG INTEREST IN INTER-AMERICAN CAPITAL DIRECTLY RELATED TO ACTIONS PENDING IN US COURTS OR GRAND JURIES OR ALTERNATIVELY ARE WE CONSIDERING ACTIONS IN COSTA RICAN COURTS? THIS DISTINCTION COULD AFFECT OUR CHOICE OF LAWYERS.

3. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE INDICATION OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INVESTIGATION OF INTER-AMERICAN CAPITAL AND DEVELOPMENT OF POSSIBLE NEW EXTRADITION ATTEMPT. IN THIS CONNECTION AND RECALLING THAT VESCO WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR COSTA RICAN CITIZENSHIP IN 1977, IT SEEMS TO EMBASSY THAT USG SHOULD GIVE PRIORITY TO EXTRADITION PROBLEM. WE UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS NOT NECESSARILY CONTEMPLATED THAT SAME ATTORNEY WOULD BE USED IF WE WERE TO PROCEED WITH ANOTHER EXTRADITION REQUEST, BUT WE WONDER WHETHER INTER-AMERICAN CAPITAL MATTER MAY NOT TEND TO MERGE OR OVERLAP WITH OTHER AREAS OF INTEREST AND FINALLY WITH EXTRADITION ATTEMPT. IF THAT IS LIKELY, THERE WOULD BE OBVIOUS ADVANTAGES IN CHOOSING AN ATTORNEY NOW WHO CAN GET IN AT BEGINNING AND COUNSEL US THROUGHOUT.

4. RESPONSES TO ABOVE POINTS WILL HAVE IMPORTANT AND DIRECT BEARING ON CHOICE OF ATTORNEY. UPON RECEIPT OF DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS, EMBASSY WILL DEVELOP AND FORWARD LIST OF RECOMMENDED ATTORNEYS.
TODMAN UNQTE INGERSOLL

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